Councilwoman



PHONE: 961-8263 FAX: 961-8912

## COUNTY COUNCID '99 MAY -4 P 2:59

County of Hawaii Hawaii County Building 25 Aupuni Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720

April 29, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Docket #98N-1038, "Irradiation in the production and handling of food."

As an elected official and member of the Hawai'i County Council, I am writing to indicate the preferences of my constituents:

THEY WANT LABELING OF IRRADIATED FOODS TO CONTINUE. THE USE OF THE TERMS "IRRADIATED" AND "IRRADIATION" SHOULD BE PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED ALONG WITH THE RADURA SYMBOL ON ALL IRRADIATED FOODS. THIS LABELING REQUIREMENT SHOULD NOT BE SUBJECT TO EXPIRATION.

In this manner it will be clear to consumers that the product has undergone the process of irradiation; a process that can change the texture, taste, storage characteristics and nutrients of a food. It is vital to the public's interests that this information be provided in order that informed consumer decisions may be made.

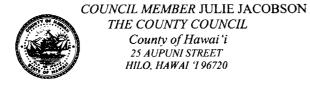
Thank you for this opportunity to express the wishes of a majority of my constituency. Please enact enabling regulations to continue labeling of irradiated foods.

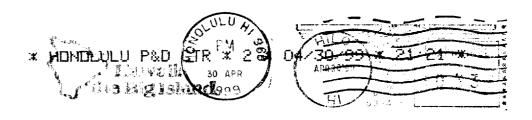
Sincerely,

Julie Jacobson

98N-1038

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